

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEL AV 04685 161526Z

44

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 OMB-01 CIEP-03 DRC-01 /111 W

----- 093617

R 161221Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3560

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 4685

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, IS

JSUBJECT: KNESSET REJECTS LIKUD PROPOSAL FOR REFEREUDUM ON FUTURE
OF WEST BANK

1. SUMMARY: KNESSET'S REJECTION AUGUST 15 OF LIKUD PROPOSAL
FOR REFERENDUM ON FUTURE OF WEST BANK CONFIRMS CONTINUING UNITY
OF LABOR ALIGNMENT AND ITS COALITION PARTNERS IN WARDING OFF
OPPOSITION EFFORTS TO FORCE GOVT'S HAND ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH
JORDAN. BUT ACID TEST OF COALITION COHENSION WILL COME AT SUCH
TIME AS ISRAEL ENTERS NEGOTIATIONS WITH JORDAN. END SUMMARY.

2. IN LAST ACTION BEFORE EGINNING TWO-MONTH RECESS, KNESSET
AUGUST 15 REJECTED 53-42 PRIVATE BILL INTRODUCED BY HERUT
(LIKUD) MK HAIM LANDAU CALLING FOR NATIONAL REFERENDUM ON QUESTION,
" ARE YOU IN FAVOR OF ISRAELI RULE IN JUDEA AND SAMARIA?"
VOTING WAS STRICTLY ALONG PARTY LINES, WITH COALITION MEMBERS
AGAINST, AND NRP TOGETHER WITH SOME AGUDA RELIGIOUS FRONT MEMBERS
SUPPORTUNG LIKUD INITATIVE.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TEL AV 04685 161526Z

3. JUSTICE MINISTER ZADOK, SPEAKING FOR GOVT, ATTACKED

LIKUD PROPOSAL ON GROUNDS THAT (A) REFERENDA ARE CONTRARY TO PRINCIPLES OF PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY AND (B) IT WAS MEANINGLESS TO ASK ISRAELI PUBLIC TO VOTE ON THEORETICAL QUESTIONN COUCHED IN SIMPLISTIC FORM. ZADOK SAID THAT PHRASING OF SUCH A GENERAL QUESTION INTENTIONALLY OVERLOOKED SUBSTANTIVE COMPLEXITIES OF ISSUES FACING ISRAELI PUBLIC. HE REITERATED GOVT COMMITMENT TO GO TO ELECTORATE WHEN AND IF GOI REACHED CONCRETE AGREEMENT WITH JORDAN INVOLVING WITHDRAWAL FROM ANY PART OF WEST BANK.

4. LIKUD REFERENDUM INITIATIVE WAS ITS SECOND EFFORT WITHIN TWO WEEKS TO COMPEL GOVT TO ADDRESS ISSUE OF ITS STANCE ON ARAB-ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS. ON AUGUST 6 COALITION PARTIES VOTED DOWN HERUT LEADER BEGIN'S CALL FOR RABIN TO MAKE MAJOR POLICY STATEMENT ON GOI NEGOTIATING STANCE BEFORE SUMMER RECESS (TEL AVIV 4487, PARA 8).

5. ALTHOUGH KNESSET RECESS IS SCHEDULED TO CONTINUE UNTIL OCTOBER 21, PARLIAMENTARY RULES PERMIT ANY JIP MKS TO SUBMIT REQUEST FOR CONVENING SPECIAL SESSION IN THIS PERIOD. LIKUD AND RELIGIOUS PARTIES REPORTEDLY HAVE ALREADY PREPARED TWENTYNR THIRTY SIGNATURE LISTS ON BROAD RANGE OF FOREIGN POLICY AND DOMESTIC ISSUES, ENANING THEM TO CALL KNESSET INTO SESSION WHENEVER THEY WISH. THUS, CONTINUING PARLIAMENTARY ACTIVITY CAN BE EXPECTED IN NEXT TWO MONTHS.

6. COMMENT: LIKUD CAN BE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE EFFORTS TL HAMSTRING GOVT IN MOVING TOWARD NEGOTIATIONS WITH JOBDAN. KNESSET VOTE ON REFERENDUM DEMONSTRATED THAT RABIN'S 61-MEMBER GOVT REMAINS SUFFICIENTLY UNITED TO WARD OFF SUCH EFFORTS. HOWEVER, ITS UNITY ON SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES OF NEGOTIATIONS AND TERMS OF SETTLEMENT WITH ARAB STATES DEPENDS ON DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN RULING LABOR ALIGNMENT, PARTICULARLY ON WHETHER DAYAN AND HIS RAFI FACTION WILL SUPPORT GOVT INITIATIVES. WHILE GOVT SO FAR HAS EFFECTIVELY HANDLED CHALLENGES SUCH AS TWO ILLEGAL SETTLEMENT EFFORTS IN SAMARIA, ACID TEST OF ITS STABILITY AND SURVIVAL PROSPECTS STILL LIES AHEAD.
KEATING

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WEST BANK, NEGOTIATIONS, PEACE PLANS, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, REFERENDUMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TELAV04685
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740226-0242
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740839/aaaabhoj.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Aug-2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <25 FEB 2003 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KNESSETT REFUSES LIKUD PROPOSAL FOR REFERENDUM ON WEST BANK
TAGS: PINT, IS, JO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005